

II. REMARKS

In this response, claims 10-13 and 23-26 have been cancelled and remaining claims have been reviewed and clarifying amendments have been made thereto.

A. Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

1. Rejection of claims 1, 3 and 4-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The above mentioned claim cancellation is such as to render the antecedent basis issues raised in connection with claims 10 and 23, moot. The clarifying amendments made in connection with claim 1 and the corresponding amendments made to claim 14, are such as to at least obviate the lack of antecedent basis rejections set forth on page 4 of this Office Action.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Inasmuch as the Office Action indicates that claim 14 and 16-21 are considered allowable and claims 1, 10, 14 and 23 contain allowable subject matter, it is submitted claims 1, 3-9, 14 and 16-22, which remain pending in this application, stand in condition for allowance.

III. CONCLUSION

It is believed that the application is in good condition for examination. The issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Questions are welcomed by the below-signed attorney for applicant.

Respectfully submitted,

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